Persons Under **Immigration Jurisdiction:**

What health care coverage is available to them?

Alberta
HEALTH

93-01497/

Foreword

This guide identifies the health care coverage available for persons under immigration jurisdiction. It determines who is eligible for Alberta Health Care coverage and when referrals should be made to Health and Welfare Canada.

This guide is intended to be an easy-to-use reference for health care professionals and administrators in hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities and other medical centres. It will also assist provincial and federal government departments that deliver or administer services for immigrants. Service agencies for immigrants will also find this guide useful.

This guide is divided into three sections:

Section one - Abbreviations

Section two - Status of Persons Under Immigration Jurisdiction

This section shows the health care coverage available according to the person's immigration status (listed alphabetically by status.)

Section three - Health Care Coverage in Alberta and Canada

This section includes information submitted by the provincial and federal government departments involved in providing health services to immigrants.

This guide was prepared with the collaborative effort of:

Alberta Health - Alberta Health Care Insurance Division,

Alberta Family and Social Services,

Alberta Career Development and Employment,

Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, and

Health and Welfare Canada.

For More Information

If you need more information or clarification of any details provided in this guide, please contact:

Alberta Health Care Insurance Division

10025 Jasper Avenue
Box 1360
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 2N3

Telephone: (403) 427-1432
Fax Number: (403) 427-1643

Room 210
407 - 8th Avenue, S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 1E5

(403) 297-6411
(403) 297-3906

Alberta Family and Social Services

The district office identified in the local telephone directory.

835, 9700 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 4C3

Telephone (403) 495-4091
Fax Number (403) 495-2743

Alberta Career Development and Employment

Director
Settlement Programs
Immigration & Settlement

Telephone (403) 427-0537

Director
Bridging Programs
Immigration & Settlement

Telephone (403) 427-0537

Canada Employment and Immigration Commission

Canada Immigration Centres

Alberta and Northwest Territories
220 - 4th Avenue S.E. Room 452
P.O. Box 2913, Stn. "M"
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 3C3

Telephone (403) 292-5724

Centre D'Immigration du Canada

Alberta Et Territoires Du Nord Ouest
220 sud-est, 4e Avenue, pce. 452
C.P. 2913, Succ. "M"
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 3C3

Telephone (403) 292-5724

For More Information

Metropolitan Place
10032 - 103rd Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 4R6

Telephone (403) 495-2199

Place Metropolitan
10032 - 103e Rue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 4R6

Telephone (403) 495-2199

10020 Franklin Ave.
Fort McMurray, Alberta
T9H 2K6

Telephone (403) 743-2340

10020, av. Franklin
Fort McMurray, Alberta
T9H 2K6

Telephone (403) 743-2340

O'Brien Place
101 - 10135 - 101st Avenue
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 0Y4

Telephone (403) 532-1385

Place O'Brien
10135, 101e Avenue, Ste. 101
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 0Y4

Telephone (403) 532-1385

Government of Canada Bldg.
706 - 4th Avenue S., Rm. 403
P.O. Box 2050
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1J 4K6

Telephone (403) 382-3141

Edifice du Gouvernement du Canada
706 sud, 4e Avenue, pce. 403
C.P. 2050
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1J 4K6

Telephone (403) 382-3141

4708 Gaetz Ave.
Red Deer, Alberta
T4N 4A1

Telephone (403) 340-4214

4708, av. Gaetz
Red Deer, Alberta
T4N 4A1

Telephone (403) 340-4214

Scotia Centre, 2nd Fl.
5102 - 50th Avenue
Bag Service 1170
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2R3

Telephone (403) 920-8400

Centre Scotia, 2e etage
5102, 50e Avenue
Service de sac 1170
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2R3

Telephone (403) 920-8400

or the local Canada Employment Centre

Table of Contents

Section 1 *Abbreviations* 5

Section 2 *Status of Persons Under Immigration Jurisdiction*

A Convention Refugee 6

B Diplomatic Passport 7

C Employment Authorization 9

D Minister's Permit 14

E Record of Landing 19

F Refugee Claimant 20

G Returning Canadian Citizen 22

H Student Authorization 23

I Tourist 26

J Visitor Record 27

Section 3 *Health Care Coverage in Alberta and Canada*

A Alberta Health Care Coverage 34

B Alberta Family and Social Services Guidelines 36

C Canada Employment and Immigration Guidelines 38

D Health and Welfare Canada Guidelines 41

Section 1 *Abbreviations*

AHC	Alberta Health Care
CEIC	Canada Employment and Immigration Commission
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CUSO	Canadian University Services Overseas
F&SS	Family and Social Services (Alberta)
IRP	Immigration Review Panel
HWC	Health and Welfare Canada

A Convention Refugee

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Convention refugee with employment authorization valid for 12 months or more. Letter received from CEIC confirming medical pass date and date convention refugee status granted.	Yes. Coverage effective medical pass date or date convention refugee status granted, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	Prior to effective date of AHC coverage, CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	

B Diplomatic Passport

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Diplomat entering Alberta with diplomatic passport valid for 12 months.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date passport authorized, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	

B Diplomatic Passport

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
2 Diplomat entering Alberta with diplomatic passport valid for less than 12 months.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	No	

C Employment Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
I Employment authorization valid for 12 months or longer.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date employment authorization signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date employment authorization signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	Employment authorization must indicate location of employment is Alberta. If employer's head office in another province, person must provide AHC with letter from employer confirming Alberta employment.

C/ Employment Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
2 Employment authorization valid for more than 11 but less than 12 months, and person entered Alberta within one month from date authorization issued.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date employment authorization signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date employment authorization signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	

Employment Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
3 Employment authorization valid for more than 10 but less than 12 months, and letter from employer confirming intention to employ for 12 months or longer.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date employment authorization signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date employment authorization signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	

C Employment Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
4 Employment authorization valid for more than 10 but less than 12 months, and no letter from employer.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	Yes. Emergency medical services provided when person has no available funds or private insurance. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	

C Employment Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
5 Employment authorization valid for less than 12 months, and person applied for landed status.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date employment authorization signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	Date of entry and date employment authorization signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival. If dates different, CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	Employment authorization must indicate person applied for landed status.

D Minister's Permit

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Minister's permit, applied for landed status, and letter from CEIC indicating medical pass date.	Yes. Coverage effective medical pass date, date of entry to Alberta, or date permit came into force, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	If medical services required prior to medical pass date, CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	

D Minister's Permit

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
2 Minister's permit valid for 12 months, previously issued student or employment authorization.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date permit came into force, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	

D Minister's Permit

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
3 Minister's permit valid for less than 12 months, previously issued a student or employment authorization.	No	CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	
4 Minister's permit for medical treatment only.	No	Normally, payment of medical services not referred to HWC. Before persons requiring medical treatment enter Alberta, CEIC determines that they have sufficient funds to cover medical expenses.	No	

D Minister's Permit

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
5 Minister's permit, medically inadmissible, and approved by Alberta IRP for medical services.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date approved by IRP, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	Normally, payment of medical services not referred to HWC. Before persons requiring medical treatment enter Alberta, CEIC determines that they have sufficient funds to cover medical expenses.	No	Persons denied landed immigrant status may be eligible for AHC coverage. This is providing IRP concurs with entry to Alberta under minister's permit, and recommends they be allowed access to provincial government services available to permanent Alberta residents. IRP consists of representatives from the following Alberta government departments: • Advanced Education, • Career Development and Employment, • Education, • Family and Social Services, and • Health.

D Minister's Permit

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
6 Minister's permit, medically inadmissible, and not approved by Alberta IRP.	No	Normally, payment of medical services not referred to HWC. Before persons requiring medical treatment enter Alberta, CEIC determines that they have sufficient funds to cover medical expenses.	No	

1 Record of Landing (Permanent Resident)

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibiiity for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Record of landing, and person intends to remain in Alberta as permanent resident.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date of landing, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of arrival date in Alberta. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, coverage effective date cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned if person registered on time.	No	No	Returning residents absent from Canada for 6 months or more may lose landed immigrant status. To provide coverage, AHC staff must see: • valid passport including stamp indicating person is returning resident, or • notification from CEIC confirming status in Canada.

1 Refugee Claimant

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Refugee claimant who entered Alberta prior to January 1, 1989.	Yes. Coverage effective December 14, 1989, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned if person registered on time.	Prior to effective date of AHC coverage, CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	AHC requires copy of employment authorization.

1 Refugee Claimant

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
2 Refugee claimant who entered Alberta after January 1, 1989.	No	CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	Yes, for emergency medical services with immediate referral to CEIC. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	Children born in Canada to refugee claimants are eligible for AHC coverage.

G Returning Canadian Citizen

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Returning Canadian citizen who intends to remain in Alberta as permanent resident.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta, providing application received within 3 months of arrival date in Alberta. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, coverage effective date cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned if person registered on time.	No	No	

II Student Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
I Student authorization valid for 12 months or more.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date student authorization signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. Late Registration Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date student authorization signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	Student authorization must be valid for Alberta.

H Student Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
2 Student authorization valid for more than 3 months but less than 12 months, and person intends to remain in Alberta for 12 months.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date student authorization signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	Student authorization must be valid for Alberta. AHC requires letter confirming intent to remain in Alberta for 12 months or more.

II Student Authorization

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
3 Student authorization valid for less than 3 months.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	No	
4 Student authorization sponsored by CIDA or CUSO.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. These are federally-funded organizations with full benefits provided by CIDA.	No	

Tourist

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Visitor to Alberta from United States.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	Yes. Emergency medical services provided when person has no available funds or private insurance. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	
2 Visitor to Alberta requiring passport.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	Yes. Emergency medical services provided when person has no available funds or private insurance. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	Passport indicates authorized duration of stay.

Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
1 Visitor record and applied for landed status. Letter from CEIC confirming medical pass date.	Yes. Coverage effective medical pass date, date of entry to Alberta, or date visitor record signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	If medical services required prior to medical pass date, CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	

J Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
2 Visitor record and applied for landed status. No letter from CEIC confirming medical pass date.	No	CEIC may refer payment of medical services to HWC. CEIC only refers to HWC when person is: • indigent, • uninsurable by AHC, and • under immigration jurisdiction.	No	

J Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
3 Visitor record for clergy, athlete, or person under Visiting Forces Act. Visitor record valid for 12 months.	Yes. Coverage effective date of entry to Alberta or date visitor record signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • 3 months prior to date of application, or • 3 months prior to date health service was provided, or • the first day of the month following 3 full months of employment, whichever date is earliest. For late registrations, effective date of coverage cannot be earlier than date that would be assigned, if person registered on time.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date visitor record signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	AHC requires clergy to provide confirmation letter from religious organization.

J Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
4 Visitor record for clergy, athlete or person under Visiting Forces Act. Visitor record valid for less than 12 months.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	Yes. Emergency medical services provided when person has no available funds or private insurance. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	
5 Visitor record for person in Alberta under Free Trade Agreement.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	Yes. Emergency medical services provided when person has no available funds or private insurance. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	

Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
6 Visitor record for tourist, regardless of record's length.	No	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance.	Yes. Emergency medical services provided when person has no available funds or private insurance. Payment restricted to practitioner visits. Does not cover hospital stays.	

J Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
7 Visitor record for accompanying family member valid for 12 months or more. Visitor record expires same date as spouse's or parent's employment or student authorization.	Yes. Coverage effective date of arrival or date visitor record signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • first of month application received, or • earliest date of service if prior medical claims, providing this is not before date visitor record signed or registration effective date.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date visitor record signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	

J Visitor Record

Condition	Eligibility for Alberta Health Care Coverage	Eligibility for Health and Welfare Canada	Eligibility for Alberta Family and Social Services	Comments
8 Visitor record for accompanying family member valid for less than 12 months: • Person arrived in Alberta within 30 days of spouse or parent on employment or student authorization, • Spouse's or parent's authorization valid for 12 months, • Visitor record expires same date as spouse's or parent's authorization.	Yes. Coverage effective date of arrival or date visitor record signed, whichever is later, providing application received within 3 months of that date. **Late Registration** Coverage effective: • first of month application received, or • earliest date of service if prior medical claims, providing this is not before date visitor record signed or registration effective date.	CEIC will not refer payment of medical services to HWC. Date of entry and date visitor record signed usually same, so AHC coverage should be available to person immediately on arrival in Alberta. If dates different, person responsible for paying medical expenses or obtaining private insurance for period prior to effective date of AHC coverage.	No	

A Alberta Health Care Coverage

Eligibility for Alberta Health Care coverage is based on residency and the type of Canada entry document issued to the person entering Alberta from outside Canada. The following services are covered by Alberta Health Care:

Basic Health Services

- Medically-required services provided by a physician or osteopath
- Certain specified oral surgical procedures provided by a dental surgeon
- Eye examinations
- Chiropractic services
- Podiatric services
- Physical therapy

For more information on insured basic health services contact Alberta Health Care for the Benefits, Eligibility, Costs brochure.

In-Patient Hospital Services

- Accommodation and meals at the public ward level
- Necessary nursing care
- Diagnostic and treatment services
- Drugs, medical preparations, and routine surgical supplies provided and administered in a hospital
- Transportation within the province between hospitals, and from a hospital to a nursing home when ordered by a physician
- Special services as ordered by a physician (e.g. a private room)

Out-Patient Hospital Services

- Emergency treatment and, where available, day surgery
- Diagnostic laboratory and radiological procedures
- *Specialized clinics, such as orthopedic and diabetic clinics*
- Physical therapy, occupational, speech, respiratory, and psychiatric therapy

For more information on in-patient and out-patient hospital services, contact Alberta Health Care for the Hospitalization Benefits brochure.

Blue Cross

Blue Cross non-group coverage is supplementary health insurance that may be obtained through Alberta Health Care. Benefits include:

- Ambulance
- Prescribed drugs
- Appliances
- Mastectomy prosthesis
- Accidental dental care

A	Alberta Health Care Coverage	
	• Clinical psychological services • Home nursing care For more information on Blue Cross non-group coverage, contact Alberta Health Care for the Blue Cross brochures called Non-Group Coverage or Coverage for Seniors. **Extended Health Benefits** Senior citizens and those receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension, and their dependants, qualify for Extended Health Benefits. These benefits cover dental care, eyeglasses, hearing aids, medical equipment, and medical and surgical appliances and supplies. For more information on Extended Health Benefits, contact Alberta Health Care for the Programs for Seniors booklet.	

B Alberta Family and Social Services Guidelines

Social Allowance Program

The Social Allowance Program is determined to be a payer of last resort and, where reference is made to assisting, it is on the premise that no other resources are available to the individual.
Under the Social Development Act:

Section 2:
The Minister, out of funds voted by the Legislature, for the purpose of ensuring that no person within Alberta will lack the goods and services essential to health and well-being, may provide financial assistance and may make all provisions and pay all amounts which he considers necessary or expedient to carry out the intent and purpose of this Act.

Section 12(1):
Subject to the regulations, when the Director considers that a person is in need of assistance he is responsible while the person is in Alberta for the provision of a social allowance to or in respect of that person in an amount that will be adequate to enable the person to obtain the basic necessities for himself and his dependants.

Section 12(2):
In determining the amount of social allowance that a person requires the Director shall have regard to the full resources of that person and, subject to any exemptions prescribed by the regulations, of any other person living in the same residence.

Sponsored Immigrants

Sponsors have a legal obligation to support persons whom they have sponsored. Clients must provide reasonable evidence that sponsorship has broken down. In these cases, assistance is provided which includes medical benefits covered under the medical services treatment card (i.e. medical, optical, dental, and ambulance).

Federal Government-Sponsored Refugees

F&SS would refer these cases immediately to the federal government. F&SS would assist these individuals when federal responsibility ends.

Refugees

F&SS would assist them and provide them with a medical services treatment card.

Refugee Claimants

F&SS would assist them and provide them with a medical services treatment card. Medical services (i.e. provided by a physician) are to be authorized by an SSA18 form (commonly known as a voucher) when the need is demonstrated.

B	Alberta Family and Social Services Guidelines	
	Foreign Nationals F&SS provides emergent assistance until CEIC reviews the case and takes appropriate action. An immediate referral is made to Immigration with emergency assistance being provided in the form of accommodation and medical services. *Note:* Payment for hospital bills is deemed to be the responsibility of the federal government.	

C Canada Employment and Immigration Guidelines

- Canadian citizens have the right to enter Canada at any time.
- Permanent residents have the right to enter Canada provided they have not lost their status or have not been ordered deported from Canada.
- Visitors may be granted temporary entry to Canada at a port of entry, may be granted authority to work or study, and may have terms and conditions imposed upon their entry.
- Permit holders may enter and/or remain in Canada notwithstanding the inadmissibility barrier against them for the duration of their minister's permit.
- Refugee claimants are persons claiming to be convention refugees at a port of entry or in Canada, whose claim has not yet been finally disposed of. Usually, but not always, such claims are made at a port of entry at the time the individual is seeking admission to Canada. The individual is allowed to make the claim from within Canada and to stay pending the outcome of the claim. The claimant in such cases possesses no legal status under Canada Employment and Immigration legislation and is subject to removal should the claim be denied.

Immigrant Visa and Record of Landing

Document issued which grants permanent residence to an individual. Person will possess a carbon holder's copy of the original. After landing is granted the document does not expire. Permanent resident status may be lost if an individual remains outside Canada for more than 6 months with the intent of abandoning Canada as place of residence, or if ordered deported.

Permit to Come Into or Remain in Canada, Extension of Permit (Minister's Permit)

Document issued to individuals who fail to meet the requirements for admission to Canada, violate Immigration legislation while in Canada, or are otherwise inadmissible but for whom exceptional grounds exist to allow the individual to enter and/or remain in Canada. Person will possess an original holder's copy which has a date of issue/date in force from, as well as expiry date.

Employment Authorization

Document issued which authorizes temporary employment in Canada. Person will possess a carbon holder's copy which has a date of issue and date of expiry. Once issued the document confers visitor status valid to the date of expiry except in the case of refugee claimants to whom the document is issued only to facilitate employment in Canada and does not confer status. Validity may be extended while in Canada.

C	Canada Employment and Immigration Guidelines

Student Authorization

Document issued which authorizes temporary studies in Canada. Person will possess a carbon holder's copy which has a date of issue and date of expiry. Once issued the document confers visitor status valid to the date of expiry. Validity may be extended while in Canada.

Visitor Record

Document issued to visitors which authorizes their temporary stay in Canada; issued for control purposes, or to individuals who are exempt from employment authorization regulations (e.g. NATO personnel, foreign diplomats, ministers of religion, etc.). Person will possess a carbon holder's copy which has a date of issue and date of expiry. Validity may be extended while in Canada.

CEIC Processing Procedures for Visitor and Immigration Applications

Visitors:

- if a visitor visa is required, it must be applied for at a Canadian post abroad;
- if a medical examination is required, it must be undertaken overseas before a visa can be issued.

Temporary Workers:

- in addition to the requirements for visitors, prearranged employment in Canada is also necessary;
- prospective Canadian employer must obtain a validated offer of employment from the local Canada Employment Centre which is then forwarded to the responsible Canadian post abroad;
- post abroad will examine applicant's qualifications to perform the duties of the position being offered and issue a temporary employment authorization provided there are no statutory (medical or criminal) barriers.

Foreign Students:

- in addition to the requirements for visitors, applicants must also present proof of registration into acceptable Canadian learning institutions and evidence of funds to maintain themselves for the duration of their stay in Canada, before temporary student authorizations will be issued by the Canadian post abroad.

Immigrant Applications:

- generally speaking, an immigrant visa must be applied for and obtained at a Canadian post abroad prior to departure for Canada;
- dependent on the immigrant category, the applicant may have to meet either the selection criteria requirements, have prearranged employment, have a sponsorship from a Canadian employer or be

engaging in a business enterprise in Canada, and in all cases the applicant must meet statutory requirements;

- in exceptional cases, based on humanitarian, compassionate or national interest factors, an application can be processed from within Canada if:
  - the person is in Canada,
  - compelling grounds are evident, or
  - the person is deemed to be a convention refugee;
- in all in-Canada cases, in addition to meeting statutory requirements, authority must be obtained from the Governor-in-Council to waive the visa requirement and grant landing from within Canada.

Minister's Permit Holders:

- may be a visitor, temporary worker, foreign student or other immigrant who cannot be issued the appropriate visa or authorization due to inadmissibility or inability to meet any immigration requirement, but for whom exceptional action is deemed warranted.

Other:

- the period of validity for a temporary authorization or minister's permit may be extended in Canada at a Canada Immigration Centre.

D Health and Welfare Canada Guidelines

Referrals for payment of medical services to Health and Welfare Canada are determined by an officer of a Canada Employment and Immigration Centre. Eligible services payable by Health and Welfare Canada include:

- Medical and surgical services
- Hospitalization and clinics (emergency and out-patient)
- Ambulance services
- Optometric services
- Drugs
- Dental care
- *Certain prosthetic devices*

Basic rule towards the payment of fees for health care services

Irrespective of their status in Canada, while in the provinces or territories, a person not holding a provincial or territorial health insurance plan card must pay for health care services rendered and claim a refund from the provincial or territorial health plan or private health insurance company, if applicable.

Exception to the basic rule

Health and Welfare Canada will pay the health services for certain foreign nationals and their dependants when indigent.

Forms giving right to health services payable by Health and Welfare Canada

Indigent foreign nationals must present a form to the institution or health professional to prove their admissibility. These forms are entitled *"Eligible Health Services"* and *"Eligible Dental Services"*.

An original form must be completed by each institution or health professional rendering a service to the holder (within 3 months) for the payment of fees. The diagnosis is mandatory.

All bills submitted more than *3 months after the date of service* will not be considered.

Authorized services

The eligible services and the fees paid will be identical to the provincial or territorial welfare schedules or agreements; *or* previously negotiated agreements between the providers of the service and Health and Welfare Canada. Authorized Services are identified on the forms and shall be paid by Health and Welfare Canada.

D Health and Welfare Canada Guidelines

Health care seeker without a form

In certain circumstances, indigent admissible foreign nationals could require emergency health care without having a form. They must obtain one from CEIC in the following days.

Also, the institution or the health professional can ascertain the probable admissibility of the health care seeker by consulting:

- his immigration document, and
- the chart on the next page.

Non-Insured Services

In certain cases, Health and Welfare Canada may pay for an indigent person, the following non-insured services not covered by the provincial or territorial health insurance plan:

- Ambulance - under 65 years of age,
- optometric services,
- drugs - under 65 years of age,
- dental care - 16 years and over, and
- certain prosthetic and orthopedic devices after their assessment and approval.

D	Health and Welfare Canada Guidelines
Categories of Foreign Nationals Seeking Health Services	
Status in Canada	**Immigration Document** (client holds such a document)
Permanent Resident	• Immigrant visa and Record of Landing
Visitor or Other Temporary Resident (permit limited in duration)	• Visitor record • Employment authorization • Student authorization • Permit to come into or remain in Canada • Extension of permit *No form:* 1. Usually a tourist has no document; however, his passport does indicate the authorized duration of stay. 2. United States citizens are not obliged to have a passport. 3. Consulate members of diplomatic agents, their families and caretakers usually have a special passport. However, they could hold an ordinary passport.
Refugee Claimant	• Refugee status claim
Convention Refugee	• Letter from the immigration and refugee board declaring the person is a refugee
	N.B. Certain clients are not covered by these categories. They are considered to be illegally in Canada; therefore, they hold no identifying document. Barring extremely rare exceptions, newborns in Canada are Canadian citizens by birth, irrespective of the parents' status in Canada. Their citizenship can be established by the birth registration.

D Health and Welfare Canada Guidelines

Adjustment Assistance Program

Health and Welfare Canada will pay for health services only to the beneficiaries of the Adjustment Assistance Program (AAP) of Employment and Immigration Canada. These beneficiaries are identified by codes on their immigration document and under certain circumstances and when indigent, can benefit from the AAP and thus obtain coverage for health services by HWC.

AAP beneficiary with a provincial or territorial health care card:

- For an indigent person, HWC will pay for non-insured services.

AAP beneficiary not having yet received the provincial or territorial health care card:

- For an indigent person, HWC will pay for health services identified on the overleaf of the forms.

Refugee claimant (and dependants) with a provincial or territorial health care card:

- No health services are paid by HWC.

Refugee claimant (and dependants) not having yet received the provincial or territorial health care card:

- For an indigent claimant, HWC will pay for some health services.

Person illegally in Canada:

Prior to obtaining health services payable by HWC, such a person must always present a form *"Eligible Health Services"* or *"Eligible Dental Services"* issued by a CEIC officer. With this form, HWC will pay for services identified on the form.

Printed on Recycled Paper